

WILLIAM VAN WAGONER
AND LEILA ALEXANDER VAN
WAGONER AND LENORA
JACQUES VAN WAGONER



William Van Wagoner, a son of John H.

W BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

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and Clarissa Tappen Van Wagoner, was born July 1, 1856 at Provo. He married Lelia Naomi Alexander, October 9, 1879, and after her death married Lenora Jacques October 27, 1897. He died December 1, 1928 at Midway.

Lelia Naomi Alexander was born June 26, 1858, a daughter of Henry S. and Sarah Miles Alexander. She died July 27, 1896.

Lenora Jacques was born June 22, 1866 at Provo, a daughter of George W. and Louisa Phillips Jacques. She died March 9, 1944 at Salt Lake City.

William grew up under humble circumstances in Midway. His father had two families to care for, one in Midway and one in Provo. He was a millwright by trade.

By the time William was 16 he and his brother John had the responsibility of supporting their mother's family.

After his marriage to Lelia Alexander in 1879 William bought a building lot in the central part of Midway and constructed a permanent family home. Lelia died in 1896 of diphtheria.

William married Lenora who reared his seven children by his first wife and bore him six more children.

By trade William was a lime burner. He located his business on the west side of Jessie's mound, later known as Memorial Hill. The lime quarries were located two blocks north in an area known as the Snake Den. When he purchased the land he had to kill more than 250 rattlesnakes before he could take over the property.

For more than 50 years William had a part in every building that was erected in Wasatch and Summit counties. A load of lime went from his place to the Marsack Hill in Park City every day for 13 years. It was delivered by John Peterson. During 1916 to 1918 he shipped more than 1,000 railroad car loads of limestone to the Amalgamated Sugar Co. of Ogden.

Through his business William created a livelihood for many men and their families. He was noted for his integrity, his love of people, and his fondness for music, as well as an avid devotion to fishing.

Both his wives loved and supported him, and created good homes and environment for the children.

In 1955, the Wasatch County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, under the direction of Lethe Coleman Tatge, erected a monument

MIDWAY BIOGRAPHIES

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at the old limestone business honoring William and John as pioneer builders of the area. Many hours were spent in accomplishing the project. The marker which stands at the site of the old lime kiln was built by Fred Haueter and others of the community.

Children of William and Lelia included: Sarah Bertha, married Hugh Cassell;

Lelia Naomi, died in infancy;

William, died in infancy;

Charles, married Martha;

Della Clara, married David Hamilton;

Myrtle May;

Katie Deon, married George Anderson;

Children of William and Lenora included:

Thelma, married Palmer Witt, died and

James G. Terry;

Luciel, died in youth;

Cuba, married Phillip Budd;

Blaine, married Fern Burch;

Ruth, married Walter M. Moser;

Cordelia, died March, 1935.

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burning and building. He loved to go fishing in the Provo River and at Strawberry Lake. As the family grew, they had many happy times along the mountain streams.

In the spring of 1900 William met the girl who was to become his life companion, Charlotte Sharp. The evening of their marriage they were honored at a reception held in the old Van Wagoner hall. They went to the Salt Lake Temple May 1st, 1901, and received their Endowments.

In the fall of 1901 William received a call to go on a mission to the Eastern States. This was about a week before their first child was born. This was a difficult decision for the young couple to make, since they were without finances, and too, they would be separated over two years. After praying and talking it over with their families they decided that William should go. William left for the mission field in November 1901 and returned in November 1903, having served an honorable mission.

During his life William was very active in church and civic affairs. As a boy he was president of the Deacons. As a young man he served as Superintendent of the Sunday School and as President of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Assn. For nine years he served as a counselor in the Bishopric of the Midway 1st Ward, first as a counselor to Bishop Joseph Francom and later to Bishop Henry Coleman. For 16 years he served on the Wasatch Stake High Council under President Joseph Murdoch and later with David A. Broadbent. He was a Sunday School teacher, ward teacher and later was appointed President of the Stake Genealogical Committee. He was an inspiring speaker and much in demand at public gatherings.

He served for several years on the Wasatch School Board. William was elected to the State Legislature for three terms by the Republican Party, in 1913, 1915 and in 1933.

For many years William was a merchant, meat cutter, builder and real estate broker. He was appointed by the federal government to act as an appraiser of land involved in the Deer Creek Reservoir project.

Charlotte Sharp Van Wagoner was a devoted wife and mother. She was known as one of the finest homemakers in the valley, and one of the best cooks. Relatives, friends and business associates were always welcome in her home, and always enjoyed

WILLIAM L. AND CHARLOTTE SHARP VAN WAGONER



William L. Van Wagoner was born May 25, 1879, Midway. Son of John Van Wagoner and Margaret Ann Faucett Van Wagoner. Married Charlotte Sharp September 19, 1900, by Patriarch Nymphus Murdock in Midway. Died September 15, 1952, Midway.

Charlotte Sharp Van Wagoner was born January 18, 1882, Heber. Daughter of Jonathon Sharp and Anna Jowett Sharp. Married William L. Van Wagoner September 19, 1900, Midway. Died August 9, 1957, Heber.

The boyhood days of William were spent in Midway. He attended grammar school there. Later he attended the Brigham Young University at Provo, where he studied business. During the summers he worked with his brothers and father in brick making, lime

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her delicious dinners and sweet hospitality. She was known to all the children in the neighborhood as "Aunt Lottie."

She taught in the organizations of the Church, including the Young Ladies Mutual Improvement Assn., and the Primary. For many years she was a teacher in Relief Society, visiting the homes of the sick and the needy. This was a calling she loved.

The family was always proud of their missionary record. William as well as four of his sons, filled full-term missions for the Church in many different parts of the country.

Children of William and Charlotte Van Wagoner:

Arthur William, married Winnie Jones;
Lester Hyrum, died in childhood;
Mrs. Clifford (Mable Ann) Workman;
Paul Halma, married Phyllis Murdock;
Ammon, married (1) Sarah Mae Kidder
(2) Phyllis Cummings (3) Renae Savage;
Mrs. Thomas L. (Belva) Harper;
Ezra Earl, married Fay Rashband;
Grant, died in infancy;
Mrs. Afton (Virginia) Thacker;
Joseph Alfred, married (1) Patricia Read
(2) Helen Mair.

Information obtained from G. J.

THE VAN WAGONER STORE

"The Van Wagoner store was located where the Coleman Store is now. In those days the Mercantiles carried no packaged goods; everything came in bulk. If someone wanted a quarters worth of sugar, it was scooped up and put into one of the customer's own containers. Perhaps a customer had brought in a bucket of eggs to trade for groceries, then the bucket would be used to carry their purchases. Other items might be wrapped in newspaper since there were no paper bags. The clerks did all this, since the shelves were behind the counters and customers were not to help themselves as they do today. Bananas hung from a hook in the ceiling; meat also hung from hooks, but only on certain days of the week since there was no refrigeration. Whatever piece of meat the customer wanted was cut off as he waited."

Information obtained from HBM

"The building was built in 1906 by Wm. L. and John Van Wagoner, Bishop. It was owned and managed by these two brothers and their sisters, Nancy and Luella Van Wagoner clerked in the store. Later the store was bought by a group of townspeople, with Bishop Jacob Probst in charge. Pr. Parley Van Wagoner was manager for a time. Still later, Dean and Albert Van Wagoner, brothers of the original owners, started another grocery store and meat market. They operated for several years. Valorous Probst operated a market there for awhile. This part of the building is now included in the Coleman Store.

In April 1917, Guy Coleman bought his father's business. In 1922 Guy's brother, Henry S. bought the business and ran it for a year. Guy Coleman then repurchased the store from Henry. Today the store has been greatly enlarged and completely modernized. Guy's son Pete is a partner in the business which is known as Coleman's Store. It is a flourishing grocery store and up to date market."

